

HOUSE No. 176**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

Tom Sannicandro*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act To eliminate the use of the word retardation from the general laws.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Tom Sannicandro	7th Middlesex
Katherine Clark	32nd Middlesex
Barbara A. L'Italien	18th Essex
Gloria L. Fox	7th Suffolk
Louis L. Kafka	8th Norfolk
Matthew C. Patrick	3rd Barnstable
Robert L. Rice, Jr.	2nd Worcester
John W. Scibak	2nd Hampshire
James B. Eldridge	Middlesex and Worcester
David P. Linsky	5th Middlesex
Cleon H. Turner	1st Barnstable
Paul McMurtry	11th Norfolk
Martha M. Walz	8th Suffolk
John D. Keenan	7th Essex
James M. Murphy	4th Norfolk
Geraldo Alicea	6th Worcester
Cory Atkins	14th Middlesex
Mary E. Grant	6th Essex
Ellen Story	3rd Hampshire

Martha M. Walz	8th Suffolk
Bruce E. Tarr	First Essex and Middlesex
Thomas P. Conroy	13th Middlesex
Katherine Clark	32nd Middlesex
Kathi-Anne Reinstein	16th Suffolk

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1899 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT TO ELIMINATE THE USE OF THE WORD RETARDATION FROM THE GENERAL
LAWS.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority
of the same, as follows:*

1 **SECTION 1.** Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Massachusetts General Laws
2 as appearing in the 2004 official edition are hereby amended by striking out the words “mental retardation” and
3 replacing thereof with the words “developmental disabilities.”

4 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect upon its passage.

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